

コミック

新田次郎 原作

横山光輝

武田信玄

⑦川中島の巻



歴史
コミック54

新田
次郎

武田信玄

7



横山
光輝

講談社
K C



山本勘助

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武田信玄の川中島の戦い

永祿四年（一五六六年）九月十日早朝、川中島一帯をおおう濃霧の中、甲越最大の合戦は静かにその幕を開けた。妻女山上の敵を挟撃せんとする信玄の裏をかき、山を下りる謙信。甲軍危うし!! 山本勘助は自らの生命とひきかえにこれを報せ、壮絶な最期をとげる。夜明けとともに霧中から現われた敵軍に武田軍は防戦一方、その上、太郎義信の軽率な行動により、大苦戦を強いられる。乱戦の中、重臣諸角豊後につき、弟典信、繁までも討死。援軍はまだか?!



武田信玄花押

TAKEDA SHINGEN

武

田

信

玄

VOLUME 7:

KAWANAKAJIMA

BY

YOKOYAMA

MITUTERU

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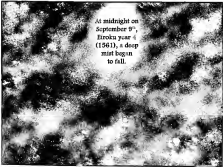
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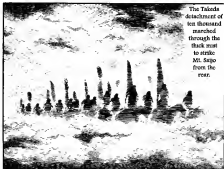
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*At midnight on
September 9th,
Eiroku year 4
(1561), a deep
mist began
to fall.*



The Taborda detachment of ten thousand marched through the thick mist to strike Mt. Saipo from the rear.



The path leading to the backside of Mt. Saipo was tapered off, making the large army's movements extremely difficult.



The detachment used stealth torches, so they would not lose the trail. These torches were made to smoke but not emit flames...

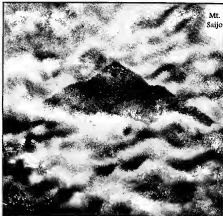


And a shake of the torch would scatter sparks to serve as a beacon.



The main army of eight thousand then headed for the banks of the Chikama River, and the remaining two thousand guarded Katsu Castle.

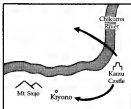
Mr.
Saijo



YES, MY LORD,
THE KAI ARMY
HAS DEPARTED
KAIJU CASTLE
AND SPLIT IN
TWO GROUPS.

WHAT?
THE KAI
ARMY HAS
LEFT KAIJU
CASTLE?

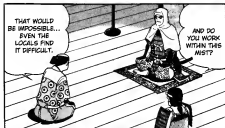




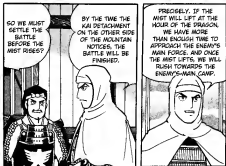










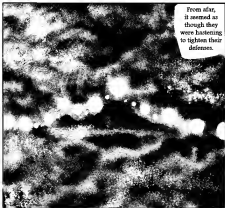








They
lit more
braziers in
a hurry.



From afar,
it seemed as
though they
were hastening
to tighten their
defenses.

TAKEDA SHINGEN



武田信玄

TAKEDA
SHINGEN

PRESENTED BY
HOKUTO NO GUN
AND HAPPY SCANS

TRANSLATED BY SYSTEMATICCHAOS
PROOFING BY ANGELOFCHAOTIX
EDITING BY HIGHTIDE
QC BY KAZUHIKO

CHAPTER 54

Chapter 55: The Death of Kansuke





LORD MASATORA
CONSTANTLY
DOES THE
UNEXPECTED...
AND TIGHTENING
HIS DEFENSES IS
TOO REASONABLE.



NOW THAT'S
STRANGE.
THEY'VE
SUDDENLY
LIT MORE
BROTHERS.



I ABSOLUTELY
CANNOT STAND
HERE!



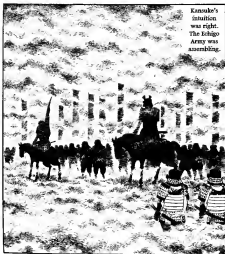
IF THAT
IS TRUE, THE
KAI ARMY WILL
BE TAKEN BY
SURPRISE!

HE COULD NOT
MEAN TO DESCEND
THE MOUNTAIN IN
THIS MIST... AND
PURPOSEFULLY
APPEAR TO BE
TIGHTENING HIS
DEFENSES
FOR IT?









Kansake's
intuition
was right.
The Echigo
Army was
assembling.



The silent voices
of whips, crossing
the night stream
The thousands of soldiers
stand in the dawn,
possessing great fangs
Ten years of enmity have
polished a single sword
While the long snake
misses the meteor's
light.

The Echigo army of ten
thousand began to silently
cross the Chikuma River.
Rai Sanyo composed the
following verse about the
Battle of Kawanakajima.















Kansake's wound was surprisingly deep, and not even bandaging the wound could stop the bleeding.



His vision began to blur from loss of blood.



HUFF...
HUFF...
I MUST HURRY...











TAKEDA SHINGEN



武田信玄

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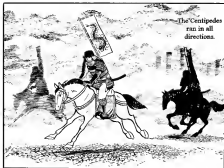
CHAPTER 55

Chapter 56: Final Battle of Kawanakajima

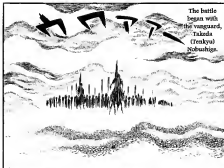












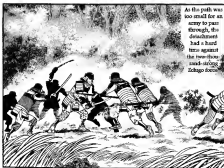




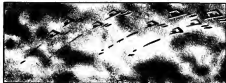




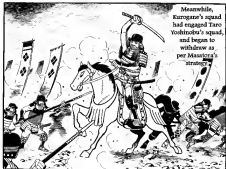
Meanwhile,
the detach-
ment was
engaged in
a deathly
struggle in
Kryono.



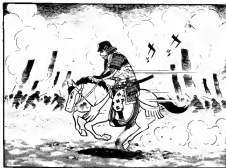
As the path was
too small for an
army to pass
through, the
detachment
had a hard
time against
the iron-throated
and strong
Ichigo forces.













I WILL NOT RETREAT,
NOT EVEN ON MY
FATHER'S ORDER!
WAR IS MEANT TO BE
FOUGHT ADAPTIVELY!
NOW IS OUR ONLY
CHANCE OF VICTORY!



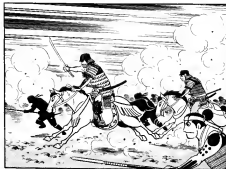
WHY?
YOU WOULD
HAVE ME
RETREAT
FROM A
WINNING
BATTLE
?



SIR
YOSHINOBU,
THE MASTER
HAS ORDERED
YOU TO RE-
TREAT!



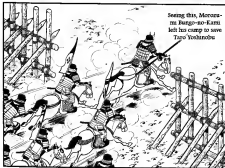
I
CANNOT
ALLOW
THAT!



















**DON'T LET
THEM ESCAPE!
AIM FOR THE
ENEMY GENERAL
TARO YOSHINOBU!
DO NOT BE
DISTRACTED BY
ANY OTHERS!**



**I SHALL
MEET THEM,
LORD TARO
YOSHINOBU!
NOW, HURRY!**



**COME!
YOU SHALL
NOT PASS!**

















**GOOD! NOW
CHARGE THEIR
FRONT! ONCE
HONSHUKE'S
FORCES HAVE
BEEN BROKEN
THROUGH, WE CAN
SLAY SHAMSEN IN
THE MAIN CAMP!**

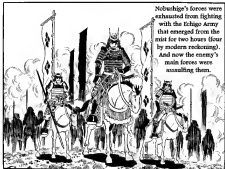


**MY LORD!
THE ENEMY
HAS SENT MORE
FORCES TO THE
RIGHT WING AND
TIGHTENED THEIR
DEFENSES!**



**This time, the Echigo's
main forces charged
the vanguard of Takeda
(Genkai) Nobushige
and Naito Shari. This is
what Uesugi Terasada
was waiting for**

Nobushige's forces were exhausted from fighting with the Echigo Army that emerged from the mist for two hours (four by modern reckoning). And now the enemy's main forces were assaulting them.



They could not request reinforcements, as all other camps were fighting for their lives.









Had Nobushige
died, he would
have lived. But he
did not retreat,
out of respect for
his brother.



If he retreated,
the enemy would
charge the main
camp. He consid-
ered his own role
to buy as much
time as possible
until the detach-
ment arrived.



But the time
he bought
was limited.



Nobushige's
body was
pierced by
countless
spears.



It was then
that gunshots
resounded from
Mt. Saïjo. That
was the detach-
ment's signal.

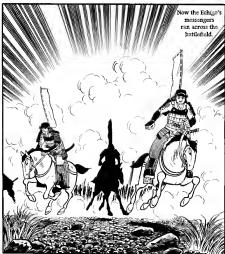


I'VE DEFENDED
THEM THROUGHOUL.
NOW THE TARDON
HAVE WON.



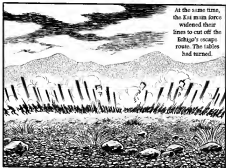
Nobushige was
37 years old.







The Kai detachment charged straight for the Ichigo Army.



At the same time, the Kai main force widened their lines to cut off the Ichigo's escape route. The tables had turned.



A new battle
had begun

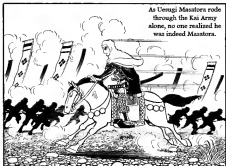


The Echigo
had to fight
enemies
before and
behind

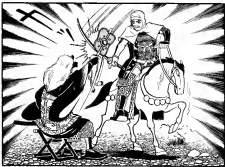


It was clear
that the more
time passed,
the greater
Echigo's losses













The Kai army
realized they
were the enemy
for the first time.





The battle
raged on,
even as the
sun set in
the West.
The Kai Army
did not give
up the chase.



The Echigo
suffered heavy
losses because
they were carrying
several heads of
the Kai army that
they had took
that morning.



The Fourth Battle of Kawanakajima ended with the sunset. The Echigo Army suffered 8117 losses, while the Kai lost just over two thousand. Shingen lost his brother Nobushige, and generals such as Morosumi Bungo-no-Kami, but in driving away the Uesugi, he had won this battle.



TAKEDA SHINGEN



武田信玄

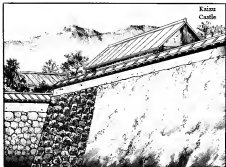
TAKEDA
SHINGEN

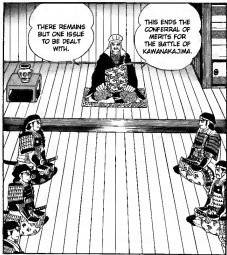
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AND HAPPY SCANS

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CHAPTER 56

Chapter 57: Father's Messenger





MY BROTHER
NOBUSHIGE AND
MOROTSUMI BUNGO-
NO-KAMI WERE
SLAIN BECAUSE OF
YOUR RASHNESS!



YOU DEFIED
ORDERS FROM
THE MAIN CAMP,
AND PUT THE KAI
ARMY IN DANGER
BECAUSE OF IT!



YOU MUST BE DEALT
WITH ACCORDING TO
TAKEDA MILITARY
REGULATIONS! HAVE
YOU ANYTHING TO
SAY ON YOUR
BEHALF?



I HAVE
INDEED ACTED
AGAINST THE MAIN
CAMP'S ORDERS.
AND I ADMIT THAT
MOROTSUMI BUNGO-
NO-KAMI HAD
PERISHED AS A
CONSEQUENCE.



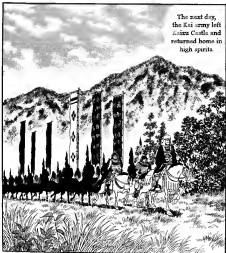
A violation of military
regulations was pardon-
able by mutual mistake.
But Yoshinobu made
light of that, thinking
that could not happen to
him for he was the heir
of the Takeda Clan.

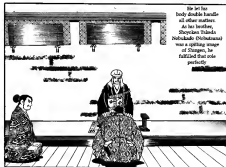


BUT TELL ME THIS:
HAD THE DIE FALLEN
ANOTHER WAY, AND I
SUCCEEDED IN TAKING
THE ENEMY GENERAL'S
HEAD, WOULD I STILL
BE DEALT WITH AC-
CORDING TO MILITARY
REGULATIONS?













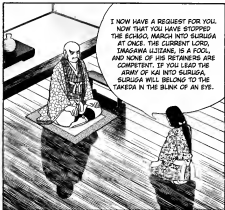










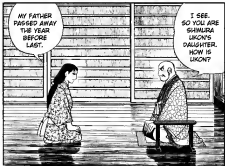


I NOW HAVE A REQUEST FOR YOU. NOW THAT YOU HAVE STOPPED THE ECHIGO, MARCH INTO SURUGA AT ONCE. THE CURRENT LORD, IMAGAWA UJIZANE, IS A FOOL, AND NONE OF HIS RETAINERS ARE COMPETENT. IF YOU LEAD THE ARMY OF KAI INTO SURUGA, SURUGA WILL BELONG TO THE TAKEDA IN THE BLINK OF AN EYE.



AS AN ADDITION, IMAGAWA UJIZANE SUSPECTS YOU. HE SEEMS TO BELIEVE THE HEARSAY THAT ODA NOBUNAGA WAS ABLE TO SLAY IMAGAWA YOSHIMOTO DUE TO YAMAMOTO KANSUKE'S GUIDANCE.

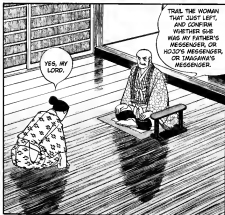
YOU CANNOT HOPE TO ENTER THE CAPITAL WITHOUT BREAKING YOUR TRIPLE ALLIANCE WITH IMAGAWA AND HOJO. ONCE YOU HAVE MADE UP YOUR MIND, THE SOONER YOU ACT, THE BETTER.











TAKEDA SHINGEN



武田信玄

TAKEDA
SHINGEN

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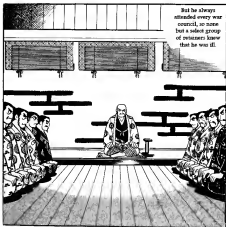
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CHAPTER 57

Chapter 58:

The Mole Strategy





It was then that a messenger from the Hojo Clan arrived.



YOU WOULD
HAVE ME SEND
MY TROOPS
ACROSS THE
PASS INTO
KANTO?



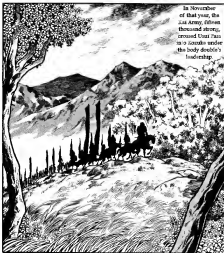
THE HOJO ARMY WILL
NOT ADVANCE INTO KANTO
FOR A TIME, AFTER THE
LOSSES THEY SUFFERED
AT KAWAKAJIMA.
NOW IS THE TIME TO DRIVE
OUR MUTUAL ENEMY
FROM KANTO.











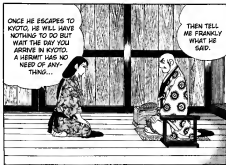








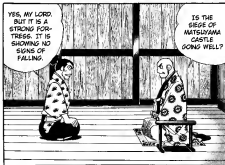


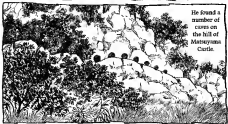






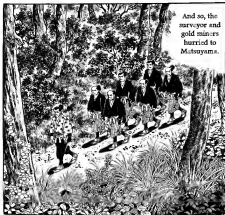








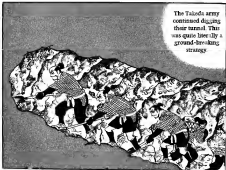








The Takeda army continued digging their tunnel. This was quite literally a ground-breaking strategy.

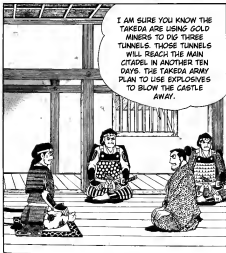


The three forward Uesugi forces garrisoned in Matsuyama Castle watched from the castle with an uneasy sensation







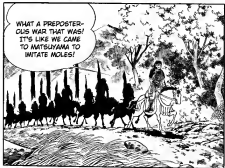












TAKEDA SHINGEN



武田信玄

TAKEDA
SHINGEN

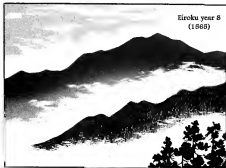
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CHAPTER 58

Chapter 59:

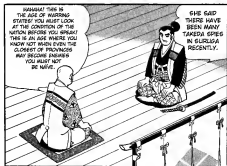
Fissure



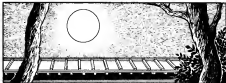






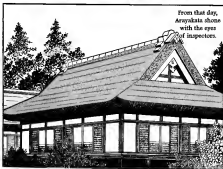
















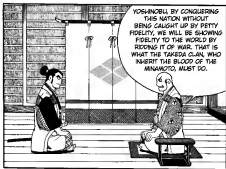
IF I DO NOT
MARCH UPON
SURUGA NOW, IT
WILL BE DIVIDED
BETWEEN THE
MATSUDAIRA
(TEYASU) AND
HOJO.



FIDELITY DOES
NOT EXIST IN THE
WARRING STATES.
IF FIDELITY DID
EXIST, THIS UNCON-
TAINABLE AGE OF
CHAOS WOULD NOT
LAST A CENTURY.



IF I MARCH UPON SURUGA,
MY RELATIONS WITH THE HOJO
WILL SOUR. THE HOJO MAY
EVEN JOIN WITH THE UESUGI.
BUT BOTH PROVINCES HAVE
THEIR HANDS FULL MAINTAINING
THEIR OWN PROVINCES,
AND HAVE NO TIME TO
INVADE KAI OR SHINANO.



YOSHINOBU, BY CONQUERING
THIS NATION WITHOUT
BEING CAUGHT UP BY PETTY
FIDELITY, WE WILL BE SHOWING
FIDELITY TO THE WORLD BY
RIDING IT OF WAR. THAT IS
WHAT THE TAKEDA CLAN, WHO
INHERIT THE BLOOD OF THE
MINAMOTO, MUST DO.



TAKEDA SHINGEN



武田信玄

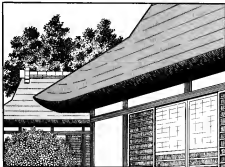
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CHAPTER 59

Chapter 60: Yoshinobu's Treason



















IT IS SAID THAT
NINJAS CAN READ
PEOPLE'S MINDS
BY READING THEIR
COUNTERNANCE.
CAN YOU DO THAT,
AKANE?



AKANE, I CANNOT
SIMPLY ACCEPT
THAT LADY SANJO
CAME SIMPLY TO
CHECK ON ME.
WHAT DO YOU
SUPPOSE SHE
CAME FOR?



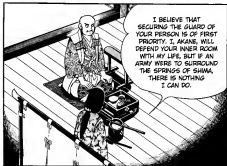
THOUGH IN REALITY,
MIND-READING IS
NOT THAT DIFFICULT.
ANYTHING ON ONE'S
MIND WILL APPEAR IN
THEIR MANNER. IT IS
SIMPLY THE ART OF
PERCEIVING THAT.



WHILE I DID
TRAIN AS A NINJA,
I RECEIVED ONLY
BASIC TRAINING...
BUT I HAVE
LEARNED BASIC
MIND-READING.





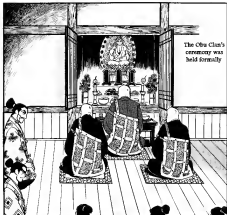


















THERE IS
SOMETHING WRONG
WITH MY BROTHER.
WHAT WAS IT HE
WAS TRYING TO
TELL ME?



AH!

HE SAID HE
HAD SET HIS MIND
ON DEATH SO
STRONGLY, AND
HE ENTRUSTED
YOSHINOBU
TO ME...



THERE IS
NONE AMONG THE
RETAINERS WHO
DOES NOT KNOW
THAT THE MASTER
AND LORD TARO
YOSHINOBU ARE
AT ODDS OVER
THE INVASION
OF SURUGA.



MY BROTHER
IS LORD TARO
YOSHINOBU'S
EDUCATOR.
HE COULD NOT
TURN DOWN
ANYTHING LORD
TARO YOSHINOBU
ASKS OF HIM.

COULD
LORD TARO
YOSHINOBU
BE PLOTTING
SOMETHING
BECAUSE OF
IT...?

AND MY BROTHER
KEPT SAYING HE
WOULD ENTRUST
LORD YOSHINOBU
TO ME... COULD
MY BROTHER
INTEND TO TAKE ALL
RESPONSIBILITY...?

NOW THAT
I THINK ON IT,
THE MASTER
DID REQUEST
A SUDDEN
INCREASE IN
GUARDS AT
THE SPRINGS
OF SHIMA...

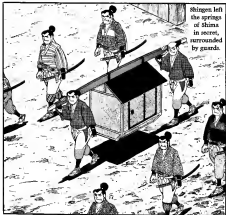
COULD THAT
BE WHAT MY
BROTHER
WAS TELLING
ME...?







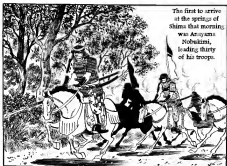
Shingen understood something the moment he heard that.



Shingen left the springs of Shima in secret, surrounded by guards.







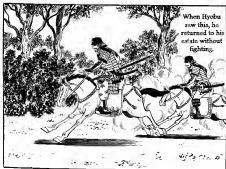


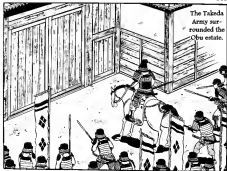
The second
to arrive
was Oba
Saburobei,
leading
fifty men.



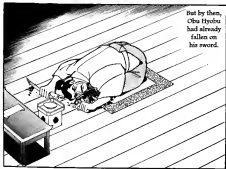
Oba Saburo-
bei's forces
speechlessly
charged Oba
Hyobu's men.







The Takeda
Army sur-
rounded the
Obu estate.

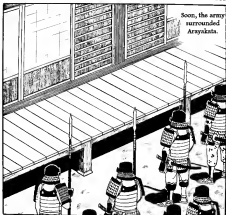


But by then,
Obu Hyobu
had already
fallen on
his sword.



Arayakata





Soon, the army
surrounded
Arayukata.



Yoshimobu
and Tsune could
only wait for the
judgment of their
father Shingen. It
was November 7th,
Eiroku year 8
(1565).

TAKEDA SHINGEN



武田信玄

TAKEDA
SHINGEN

PRESENTED BY
HOKUTO NO GUN
AND HAPPY SCANS

TRANSLATED BY SYSTEMATICCHAOS
PROOFING BY ANGELOFCHAOTIX
EDITING BY HIGHTIDE
QC BY KAZUHIKO

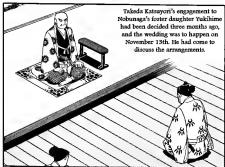
CHAPTER 60

Chapter 61: Katsuyori's Wedding

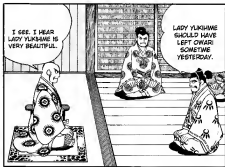




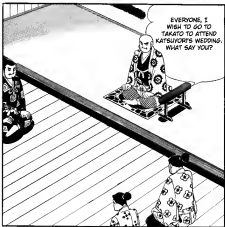
Oda Nobunaga's manager,
Oda Kemon
Tadahiro,
visited under
heavy guard.



Takada Katsuyori's engagement to
Nobunaga's foster daughter Yukihime
had been decided three months ago,
and the wedding was to happen on
November 19th. He had come to
discuss the arrangements.











I SHARE SIR ANAYAMA'S
OPINION. BUT I AM OPPOSED
OUT OF PITY FOR LORD
YOSHINOBU, RATHER THAN
CONCERNED ABOUT WHAT
OTHER PROVINCES MAY
THINK. I BELIEVE IT WOULD
BE BEST IF YOU RESTRAINED
FROM GOING TO TAKATO.



I AM NOT
OPPOSED
TO YOU
ATTENDING
THIS
WEDDING.



WHATEVER
THE OTHER
PROVINCES MAY
SAY, WHY MUST
A FATHER FAIL
TO ATTEND HIS
SON'S WEDDING?



WHAT?
PITY FOR
YOSHINOBU?
DO YOU
REALIZE WHAT
YOSHINOBU
INTENDED
TO DO?



HMM...
SO YOUR
OPINIONS
ARE AT
ODDS.



I THINK
THE SAME.

A WEDDING IS A CEREMONY
TO JOIN TWO HOUSES, AND IN
SOME CASES, TWO PROVINCES.
WHETHER YOU GO OR NOT IS
YOUR DECISION, AND IT IS
NOT THE VASSALS' PLACE
TO SPEAK AGAINST IT.



BABA
MINBU,
WHAT
DO YOU
THINK?



IT IS NOT
OUR PLACE
TO SPEAK
AGAINST IT.



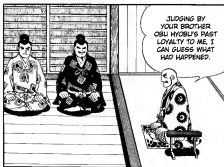
HE IS
RIGHT.

OBU
SABU-
ROBEL



VERY WELL.
I SHALL DECIDE
LATER IF I
SHOULD GO
TO TAKATO
OR NOT.

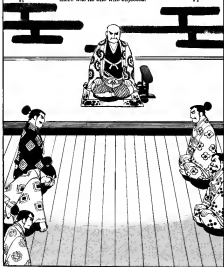






The incident of the springs of Shima was caused by discord originating from Shingen and Yoshinobu's disagreement.

As it was clear to everyone that Oba Hyobu, as Taro Yoshinobu's guardian, sacrificed himself to save Yoshinobu, there was no one who objected.









TAKEDA SHINGEN



武田信玄

TAKEDA
SHINGEN

PRESENTED BY
HOKUTO NO GUN
AND HAPPY SCANS

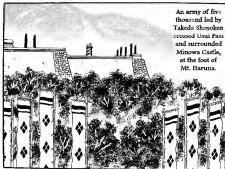
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CHAPTER 61

Chapter 62: Siege of Minowa



May,
Eiroku
year 9
(1566)



An army of five thousand led by Takeda Shogoken crossed Utsa Pass and surrounded Minowa Castle, at the foot of Mt. Haruna.



Once this castle fell, and Kousho was under their command, the forces of Echigo would retreat farther.



But Minowa Castle had deep moats and high walls. It would not fall easily.



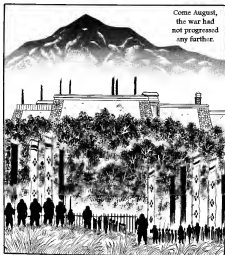
THEY SEEM TO HAVE PLENTY IN STORAGE.

HOW ABOUT THE ENEMY'S RATIONS?



YES.

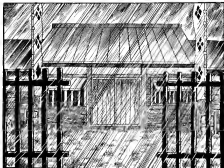
LORD SHOYO-KEN, A SIEGE OF ATTRITION WOULD RESULT IN HEAVY LOSSES ON OUR SIDE.





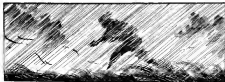




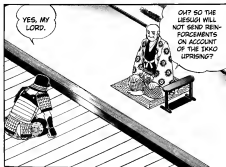




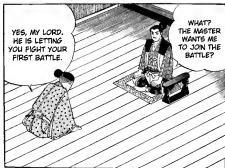




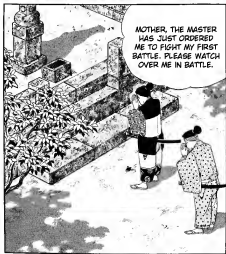


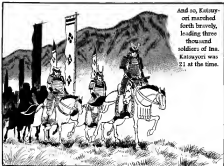












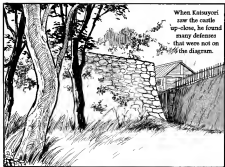
On September 10th, Shingen
and Katayori's armies of
six thousand joined the five
thousand men besieging
Minowa Castle.



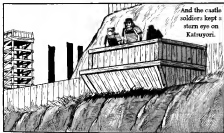
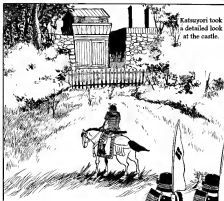






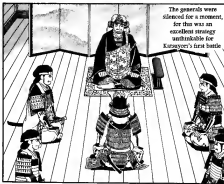


When Katsuryōri
saw the castle
up-close, he found
many defenses
that were not on
the diagram.



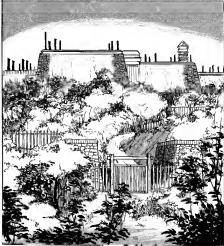








The Takeda army began acting according to Katsumori's plan. If this strategy succeeded, Katsumori's value would increase within the Takeda, but if it failed, it would be lowered.



Kawanakajima – FIN

Kawanakajima - The Kai-Echigo Showdown

Front of Hachimanbara, with a view of the earthen wall



Information board at Hachimanbara



Hachimanbara faced Mt. Saijo with the Chikuma River between them, and it was a perfect location to see the entire land of Kawanakajima at once. Currently it is famed as a legendary tourist landmark for being the site of the duel between Shingen and Kenshin, and the location of the Nagano Public Museum, where visitors come ceaselessly. Standing on the remains of the camp at Hachimanbara, the first thing you will see is Hachiman Shrine. Initially, this location was a small shrine that enshrined a tutelary god, but it became a god the clans of Shinano prayed to for continued fortune in war during age of the Warring States. This was the Scabbard Hall, which lasted since before the main building, until today, while the current main building was moved by Shingen from the Tsurubono Shrine in Kusubono, Chinoogata, during the victory ceremony after the Fourth Battle of Kawanakajima. The Scabbard Hall is surrounded by a low earthen wall 38 meters wide East to West, and 48 meters wide North to South, and these are the remains of the square camp built by Shingen. A native pagoda tree was used as a stake for the soil bender of this embankment, driven in with the roots up. This tree sprouted, and after growing for four hundred years it is now the giant "Inverted Pagoda" tree on the right hand side of the shrine.



Statue of Shingen and Kenshin's duel in Hachimanbara

Memorial to the
"Seven-Strike Marks of Three Strikes"



Early morning on September 10, Eiroku year 4 (1561), Kenshin, advanced in his "battlefield intuition", figured out Shingen's pincer strategy, descended Mt. Saijo to cross the Chikuma River near Inugase, and approached Hachimanbara, where Shingen's main camp was set up.

Head Mound on the West Side of Hachimanbara



Head Mound of the Unknown Soldier



Also, Shingen's head attendant at the time, Hara Osumi, struck once at the mounted foe with a nearby pike, but he missed and struck the horse's hip bone, causing the horse to jump and run from the scene.

This meant Shingen escaped grave danger, but Osumi was so overcome by regret for letting Kenshin escape, he drove the pike into a nearby rock. The monument to the "seven-strike marks of three strikes" is on the east side of Hachimanbara, and the "rock of Hara Osumi's tenacity" remains beside the Scabbard Hall, but there is a strong opinion that the duel itself was a legend created to fulfill the wish of having these heroes of reputed character do battle.



Hachiman Shrine, the inverted Pagoda to the right



The Scabbard Hall, the Ichigo's "Dragon Banner" to the left



Hara Osumi's "Rock of Tenacity"

Now, the duel has always been an integral part of the Battle of Kawanakajima. A warrior priest boldly rode into the Takeda's main camp alone, his hand forced due to the failure of his plan.

This was Uesugi Kenshin himself, and he rode like a meteor towards Shingen, with his word Osamitsu in hand. Shingen barely managed to block the first strike with his fan, and suffered a slash to his arm with the second strike and his shoulder with the third strike. He later looked at the fan and saw seven sword marks on it, and he called it the "seven-strike marks of three strikes".

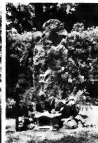
Grave of Kōsaka Danzō, who
perished in Kaiwa Castle the following year



Grave of Morozumi Būngō-no-Kami



Grave of Yamamoto Kansuke



Grave of Tenkyū Nobushige

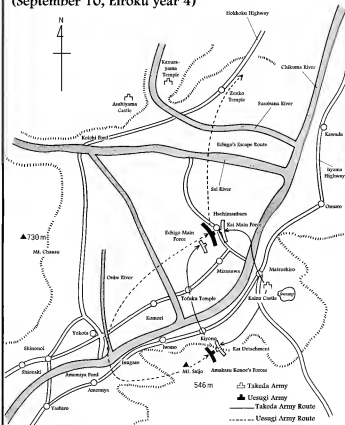
This battle resulted in the victory of the Kai Army who secured Kawanakajima, but countless generals perished with the battlefield dew. Shingen's younger brother Tenkyū Nobushige was known for having his father Nobutora's bravery, and was the Takeda army's number-two man who also served as Shingen's body double on occasion, and it is said that when his corpse was brought to the main camp, Shingen clung on to it and wailed in lament. His grave is in the Tenkyū Temple of the Soto Sect, southwest of Hachimanbara. There are various theories on Yamamoto Kansuke, and some even doubt his historicity, but he is the Kai Army's most preeminent strategist according to the Kōyō Gunkan, and is the most popular in general. His grave is a dense thicket on the bank overlooking the Chikuma River. Morozumi Būngō-no-Kami's head had once fallen into enemy hands, but the Morozumi's forces retrieved it with deathly resolve, and buried him where he died. Countless people perished in this battle, entrusting their fates to the two generals. The two head-mounds remaining in Kawanakajima have taken in their sorrow and speak of it to all those who visit.

Photography by Taniyama Shinichiro



"Lord Nobushige's Road-Cleaning Well" in Tenkyū Shrine

Map of the Formations of the Fourth Battle of Kawanakajima
(September 10, Eiroku year 4)



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CHAPTER 62